





#### MC&FP FACT SHEET

# A Survivor's Guide to Benefits: Taking Care of Our Families

## Background

The Department of Defense designed "A Survivor's Guide to Benefits: Taking Care of Our Families" to provide information for families as they work through the difficulty and pain of losing a loved one who was serving in the military. The winter 2014 update of the guide is now available.

# **Highlights**

To honor the sacrifice of those who have died, DoD is committed to doing all it can to support the surviving families of service members. "A Survivor's Guide to Benefits: Taking Care of Our Families" offers information to address the needs of survivors during this difficult time, such as:

- An explanation of the role of the casualty assistance officer, who offers compassionate support and assists with the issues including burial arrangements, legal matters, application for benefits and relocation assistance
- Information about funeral and/or memorial services, the transportation of the remains, military honors and the return of personal effects
- An overview of the federal benefits, privileges and entitlements that may be available to survivors, as well as a detailed list of survivor support organizations
- Financial information that will help to plan for immediate and future needs













### Data



The guide is updated biannually to ensure that the information is as current as possible.



The guide was developed in collaboration with the service Casualty Affairs offices and direct input from primary next-of-kin.

### Additional information

Survivor's Guide to Benefits www.militaryonesource.mil/ survivorsguide

Casualty Assistance www.militaryonesource.mil/casualty

Non-Medical Counseling Military OneSource: 800-342-9647 www.militaryonesource.mil